

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BOARD OF PHARMACY**

**IN THE MATTER OF  
DOMENIC COLARUSSO, RPh**

**Summary Suspension**

The Board of Pharmacy received information regarding Domenic Colarusso, RPh. (hereinafter the "Respondent") employed at Prime Drug, 613 Cranston St., Providence, Rhode Island, concerning areas of the Respondent's pharmacy practice. After conducting an investigation into these areas, the Board of Pharmacy has brought the investigative findings to the attention of the Director of Health.

In accordance with the provisions of R.I.G.L. § 42-35-14, the Director of Health makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law relating to the Respondent's continuation in the practice of Pharmacy.

**Findings of Fact**

1. The Board of Pharmacy conducted an investigation with the United States Food and Drug Administration, Office of Criminal Investigation and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Rhode Island Attorney General Medicaid Fraud and Patient Abuse Unit.
2. This investigation revealed facts that demonstrate a clear pattern of intentional misconduct by the Respondent in the practice of pharmacy at Prime Drug with regard to buying non-controlled drugs and selling

controlled substances and other therapeutic drugs illegally in violation of Pharmacies Act R.I.G.L. § 5-19.1-21 and the Uniform Substances Act, R.I.G.L. § 28-21-1 et. Seq. and the Food Drug and Cosmetic Act § 21-31 et. Seq.

3. The Respondent is the registered "Pharmacist in Charge". The Pharmacist in Charge is the person responsible for the operation of the pharmacy in conformance with all laws and regulations pertinent to the practice of pharmacy and who is personally in full and actual charge of the pharmacy and personnel.
4. The Respondent has a history of disciplinary actions including a 2006 Reprimand for violating laws and regulations regarding controlled substances and a 2003 Reprimand for failing to transfer a prescription as required by law and a 2000 Stayed Suspension with probation for failing to provide prospective drug reviews as required by law.
5. The Respondent's misconduct, negligence and apparent continued disregard for acceptable standards of pharmacy practice make the Respondent unfit for the continuation in the practice of pharmacy.

#### ORDER

After considering the findings of the evaluation of the Respondent's professional practice, it has been determined that the continuation in practice of medicine of Domenic Colarusso, RPh. would constitute an immediate danger to the public. Accordingly, Domenic Colarusso, RPh. is suspended from practicing pharmacy until further Order of the Department of Health. The Respondent's suspension is

in accordance with the provisions of R.I.G.L. § 42-35-14. Respondent is entitled to a hearing on the revocation or other administrative action regarding his license.

  
David R. Gifford, MD, MPH  
Director of Health

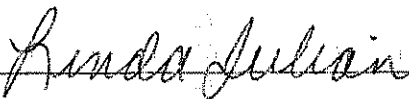
5-6-08  
Date

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that a copy of this **Summary Suspension Order** was sent via hand delivery to the Respondent on this 6th day of May, 2008 at the following addresses:

Domenic Colarusso, RPh.  
20 Hybrid Ave.  
Cranston, RI 02920

Prime Drug  
613 Cranston St.  
Providence, RI 02907

  
Linda Julian